



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Conservatives Move to Shoot Down “Triggers”** *Amendment to House Rules Introduced to Prevent Tax-Cut Triggers*

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Members of the Republican Study Committee (RSC) applauded efforts to prevent the inclusion of “triggers” in bills that propose to cut taxes. Triggers make tax-cuts contingent upon other events or circumstances (such as a budget surplus). The anti-trigger amendment was introduced today by RSC Member, Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ), at a joint press conference on Capitol Hill with the National Taxpayers’ Union.

Co-sponsoring the anti-trigger amendment are Reps. John Shadegg (R-AZ), Pat Toomey (R-PA), Pete Sessions (R-TX), Jim DeMint (R-SC), C. L. “Butch” Otter (R-ID), Sue Myrick (R-NC), Tom Tancredo (R-CO), Sam Johnson (R-TX), John Doolittle (R-CA), Jim Ryun (R-KS), Paul Ryan (R-WI), Mac Collins (R-GA), Mike Pence (R-IN), and John Hostettler (R-IN).

### **RSC Members released the following statements:**

"In practice, tax cut triggers translate into excuses for Washington to spend," said Rep. Paul Ryan. "Triggers also cripple the potential stimulative effect of tax cuts, by making it impossible to plan for the future. If people don't know whether they will see tax relief or not, they won't factor it into their plans. This uncertainty can stall possible economic expansion. Triggers become a self-fulfilling prophesy of slower economic growth and higher spending."

Rep. Pete Sessions said, “Triggers would unquestionably worsen Washington’s fiscal irresponsibility. By stipulating that taxes will only be lowered if Congress does not spend surplus funds, triggers give many in the government the incentive to spend like mad.”

Rep. John Doolittle continued, “Triggers kill tax cuts. They are tricky mechanisms used by tax-and-spend liberals to ensure that the federal government is never hampered in its efforts to collect more and more money from American taxpayers. We must do all we can to prevent triggers from ever being included in any tax bill.”

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“What we need is a congressional device making it harder to *raise* taxes,” declared Rep. Jim Ryun. “The last thing we need is a something that makes it harder to cut taxes. What kind of message does it send to American taxpayers if we only cut their taxes when Washington somehow can’t manage to spend all the money it has collected? The message should be the other way around—that taxpayers will *first* get a tax cut, and then Washington can see how much money it has collected.”

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